



Patent Application
Atty. Docket: 2155 CIP CON (203-3398 CIP CON)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Wham, et al. **EXAMINER:** Michael F. Peffley
SERIAL NO.: 10/761,524 **GROUP ART UNIT:** 3739
Filing Date: January 21, 2004
FOR: **VESSEL SEALING SYSTEM**
CONFIRMATION NO.: 4222

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The Office Action mailed April 27, 2006, requires restriction to one of the following patentably distinct inventions: Species I (Claims 1-18) drawn to a method of sealing tissue; and Species II (Claims 28-60) drawn to an electrosurgical system. Please amend the application as follows.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 2, 2006.

Dated: 5-4-06

Mary Jo Milacek